

FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of fire department operations. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and fire suppression tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, driving and operating fire apparatus and equipment, and maintaining fire department vehicles and equipment. Employees of this class perform rescue work by assisting victims of fires and providing emergency medical care to the sick or injured at the emergency scene. Firefighters/Operators participate in areas concerning pre-fire planning, inspections and fire prevention. Employees of this class perform duties under the supervision of and have work reviewed by a Fire Captain.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Trains for and performs firefighting and rescue tasks such as carrying, connecting, and operating hose lines; using direct streams or water curtains; forcible entry; ventilation; and using ladders, lines, and other equipment to aid in fighting fires or removing fire and accident victims to safety. Locates and extinguishes fire source, hidden fires and hot spots.

Operates and rides in fire apparatus to and from fire or emergency scene. Ensures a timely response to the fire or emergency scene by taking shortest route available using resources of maps or memory. Communicates with dispatcher and fire vehicles using two-way radio. Evaluates navigational problems such as narrow alleys or structural impasses and determines a means of entrance and egress. Positions and connects to supply source. Stabilizes apparatus using truck jacks, outriggers, or wheel chocks.

Operates pumper to supply adequate pressure to the nozzle. Calculates required water flow, friction loss, and discharge pressures necessary for fire suppression. Operates and controls portable, fixed, or large-caliber water streams. Makes and unmakes hydrant connections to hydrants or standpipes. Anchors the hose to the hydrant and opens and controls water flow, deploys hose, and drafts water.

Performs salvage tasks necessary to protect property, using covers, tarps, or other materials. Protects salvaged property from theft

by observing bystanders. Carries or removes burning items to reduce fire and smoke damage. Removes debris and charred waste. Picks up water after fire is extinguished using appropriate method. Constructs catch-alls to trap and dispose of water. Shores up or tears down weak and dangerous structural components. Wedges or clamps sprinkler heads after fire is extinguished to shut off flow of water. Informs officer in charge of suspected arson. Protects premises where arson is suspected.

Performs search and rescue operations in order to locate and remove trapped victims from burning or collapsed buildings, vehicles, enclosed spaces, or other endangerment using appropriate tools and techniques. Cuts or pries open vehicles or machinery to free persons trapped. Responds to medical emergency calls and examines victims for signs of injury and administers first aid to treat minor injuries, as well as emergency care to victims of fires, accidents, drowning, and other emergencies.

Participates in fire prevention and fire inspection tasks such as inspecting portable fire extinguishers, studying information to become familiar with the location of water lines and hydrants, exposures, and related duties. Draws pre-planning maps and diagrams. Participates in pre-fire planning, including gathering and studying information regarding types of occupancy and structure, building layout, hydrant and standpipe location, and hazardous materials storage.

Studies and maintains proficiency in the procedures for special emergencies. Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials. Removes containers of flammable or hazardous materials at the fire scene under direction of a superior officer. Acts to contain hazardous material spill or control spread.

Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting equipment such as fire apparatus, communications equipment, hoses, nozzles, hand tools, portable breathing apparatus, turn-out equipment, ladders, or related equipment. Performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure. Maintains inventory of tools and equipment on apparatus using checklist or knowledge of equipment. Inspects tools for damage or to determine if any tools are missing, and makes report. Makes minor repairs to equipment and tools.

Participates in assigned training drills either as an individual or as a member of a group. Practices with apparatus and equipment under supervision to increase and maintain proficiency. Provides occasional "on-the-job" training as directed. Reads and studies assigned materials including firefighting training materials, technical firefighting manuals, and basic laws and regulations or updates related to performance of work.

Performs tasks necessary for the proper maintenance and function of

the station and grounds such as cleaning floors, windows and kitchen area, emptying trash cans, cutting grass, and performing other maintenance duties. Provides for the security of the station by locking station doors and securing valuable items. Inspects fire station and notifies officer in charge of needed repairs.

Performs public relations duties such as calming excited citizens at emergency scene. Works with local youth groups and other community groups, delivering lectures or demonstrations on fire prevention or fire safety. Receives telephone calls and provides necessary information or directions. Refers calls to appropriate personnel or agency. Assists visitors at the station. Conducts fire station tours and explains fire equipment and firefighting techniques to visiting public.

Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Applicant must possess one of the following: high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, high school transcript, affidavit from the issuing high school, associate's or bachelor's degree, or college transcript, any one of which must indicate that graduation has occurred or a degree awarded. A certification of completion shall not be sufficient to substitute for a diploma or equivalency certificate.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

Must not be less than eighteen (18) years of age.